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Referred: Labor & Commerce

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY HERRMANN AND ZHAROFF

2

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 52

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to the poor economic condition

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of Alaska coastal communities.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

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WHEREAS coastal communities throughout the state are having severe

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economic problems; and

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WHEREAS these economic problems are only partially due to fluctuations

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in the fisheries resource and markets; and

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WHEREAS these problems are often accentuated by the state's lack of

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understanding and involvement in coastal needs; and

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WHEREAS many coastal communities continue to lack the infrastructure

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and financial resources vital to a healthy economy; and

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WHEREAS the people in these communities are suffering hardship because

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of lack of income and employment opportunities; and

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WHEREAS the commercial fisheries income to several coastal communities

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has decreased dramatically in recent years due to reduced catches and

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prices; and

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WHEREAS the requests for deferrals for payments on state fisheries

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loans have rapidly increased indicating the critical status of the coastal

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economy; and

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WHEREAS both large and small seafood processors have gone bankrupt or

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are not able to operate profitably due to fluctuating production and uncer-

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tain national and international markets; and

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WHEREAS the people most effected by this poor economic climate are

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rural Alaska residents; and

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WHEREAS the economic viability of the coastal economy is of vital

1 importance to all the people of Alaska;

2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
3 urgently requested to undertake a complete analysis into this economic
4 downturn and the avenues available to the state to improve the economy of
5 coastal communities; and be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to utilize whatever
7 means or resources identified in the analysis to immediately counter this
8 economic disaster in order to ensure the long-term viability of the economy
9 of Alaska.